

Indicator <i>Recommended with Reservations</i>	Drug Abuse or Dependence
Justification	<p>Abuse and dependence are clinical terms used to characterize patterns of drug use associated with significant social, psychological, and physical problems for the user and/or others who may be negatively impacted by the user.</p>
Definition	<p>Percent of persons aged 12 and older meeting DSM-IV criteria for drug abuse or dependence</p>
Data Source	<p>National Survey on Drug Use and Health (NSDUH)</p>
Frequency	<p>Annual</p>
Geographic levels	<p>National and State</p>
Demographic Categories	<p>Age</p>
Strengths	<p>NSDUH is the only national source that currently provides statewide prevalence estimates of drug abuse or dependence.</p>
Limitations	<p>Concerns have been raised about the accuracy of assessing clinical conditions through survey methodology. Responses have, however, been shown to be consistent with information obtained from peers, parents, and archival records. State-level estimates for most states are based on relatively small samples. Although augmented by model-based estimation procedures, estimates for specific age groups have relatively low precision (i.e., large confidence intervals). The estimates are provided directly by SAMHSA and raw data that could be used for alternative calculations (e.g., different age categories and/or other demographic subgroups) are not available. The estimates are subject to biases due to self-report and non-response (refusal/no answer).</p>